GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:577
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2005
CONCESSIONAL FARES OF INDIAN AIRLINES
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether air fares of Indian Airlines to some sectors within the country is much higher than others which are far away in distance;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Indian Airlines offer a number of concessinal fares on many sectors;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Indian Airlines periodically reviews this keeping in view the commercial viability; and

(f) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

- MINISTER OF STATE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a),(b),(c),(d),(e) and (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a),(b),(c),(d),(e) and (f) of LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 577 FOR 05.05.2005 REGARDING CONCESSIONAL FARES OF INDIAN AIRLINES

(a) and (b):- In view of the highly competitive market scenario, Indian Airlines took a decision in May, 2001 to introduce ` Flexi Fare Policy` whereby the level of fare increase / decrease varies from sector to sector and season to season, depending upon various market factors like seasonality, strength of Indian Airlines vis-Ã -vis competitors, supply-demand equation etc. At present, fares are driven by these market forces and not based on sectoral distances.

(c) and (d):- Indian Airlines offers, besides the normal sectors fares, 'Promotional Fares' on specified sectors from time to time. Various types of such fares are as under:-

(i) Lean sector Promotional fares:- Lean sector Promotional fares are available on specified sectors in economy class. These are applicable on one way or return journeys.

(ii) Excursion Fares:- Excursion fares are available on specified sectors in economy class. Only Round trip journey permitted under these fares.

(iii) Through Fares:- Through Fares are applicable to facilitate travel of passenger where direct connections are not available under Through Fares travel at the intermediate point may or may not be permitted. Travel permitted on Economy class.

(iv) Round Trip fares:- Round trip fares are offered on specified sectors only. One way journey is not permitted. Travel is permitted in economy class.

(v) Fly Select Fares:- Fly select fares have been introduced on select sectors / flights. Seats are available on a first come first serve basis.

(vi) APEX Fares:- APEX Fares, an Advance Purchase Scheme, had been introduced with effect from August, 2002 on select domestic sectors in economy class.

(vii) Positioning Flight Fares:- Positioning Flight Fares effective 1st April, 2004 fares on certain select sectors have been brought down to the level of almost AC chair fares. These fares are available on 24 sectors of the domestic leg of international flights.

(viii) Permanent discounts offered by Indian Airlines:- On fulfillment of certain conditions, members of Indian Armed Forces, personnel of General Reserve Engineering Force, war disabled persons, war widows, ex-Armed Force personnel, Para Military Forces, police personnel having received Presidents Police Medal for gallantry, civilians having received gallantry awards, students, senior citizens, blind persons, cancer patient, locomotor disability, persons invalid on stretcher, sports persons participating in National Sports Events and Arjuna Awardees are offered discounts of varying percentage.

(e) and (f):- In the present scenario of competitiveness, fares are driven by market forces. Indian Airlines reviews the fares and adjusts them to meet market requirements.